

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 OMB-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /151 W

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R 081505Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION NATO

USDOCOSOUTH

USEUCOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 2283

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR

SUBJECT: LOCAL REACTION TO MAKARIOS LAYOVER IN ATHENS

REF: ATHENS 7734

SUMMARY: ABSENT OFFICIAL GUIDANCE ON MAKARIOS/MARKEZINIS TALKS, PRO-GOVT PRESS MAKING MODERATE EFFORT TO SHOW BENEFITS OF MEEING. GARRETT REPORT CONFIRMING ILL TREATMENT OF PRISONERS WILL OFFSET THESE PROPAGANDA POINTS CONSIDERABLY. WE THINK ATHENS AND NICOSIA CONTINUE REGARD EACH OTHER WARILY. END SUMMARY.

1. FONMINISTRY SOURCES INSIST (CONVINCINGLY) THAT THEY HAVE NO REPORT ON MAKARIOS-MARKEZINIS TALKS BEYOND PRESS COVERAGE. PIO HAS ISSUED NO STATEMENT TO PAPERS HERE, BUT PRO-GOVT "PHILELEFTHEROS" HAS PLAYED UP UNIDENTIFIED (AND ANTI-GRIVASIST) GREEK STATEMENT THAT "GREECE RESOLUTELY DETERMINED TO HELP MAKARIOS RESTORE INTERNAL ORDER, PALAMAS' ENDORSEMENT
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OF INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS (REFTEL), AND HIS STATEMENT THAT ATHENS

DOES NOT INTERVENE IN INTERNAL CYPRIOT AFFAIRS (SIC). PRESS LINE UNDOUBTEDLY INTENDED TO COUNTER NEURALGIC LOCAL RESPONSE TO PALAMAS STATEMENT (ATHENS 7684) THAT GREECE NOT INDIFFERENT TO LOCAL EVENTS HERE AND (CONTRADICTING STATEMENTS BY BOTH MAKARIOS AND PIO) THAT LAGACOS HAD IN FACT EXPRESSED "CONCERNS AND VIEWS" TO ARCHBISHOP RE RECENT INCIDENTS.

2. MORE NEWSWORTHY ITEM PAST FEW DAYS WAS ICJ EXPERT GARRETT'S REPORT, PRECIS OF WHICH RELEASED TO PRESS NOV 6 TO EFFECT THAT (1) GOVT SECURITY FORCES HAVE USED VIOLENCE AGAINST DETAINEES, (W) MORE DISCIPLINE AND CONTROL NEEDED FOR THESE FORCES, (3) PRESENT MEANS FOR INVESTIGATING THEIR ABUSES ARE INADEQUATE, AND (4) INDEPENDENT INQUIRY NEEDED TO CLEAR AIR OF ALL CHARGES. EDITORIAL REACTION LOUD AND PREDICTABLE. PIO CONSTRAINED TO SAY HE COULD NOT EXCLUDE THAT CERTAIN INCIDENTS HAD OCCURRED BUT ADDED LAMELY THAT REPORT BASED ONLY ON DETAINEES' TESTIMONY.

3. COMMENT: GOVT HAS NOT MADE BIG SPLASH OUT OF ATHENS VISIT AND UNLIKELY TO MAKE PROPAGANDA SHOW OF NICOSIA/ATHENS HANDHOLDING UNTIL IT IS MORE CONFIDENT THAT NEW GREEK GOVT DOES NOT PLAN TO MANAGE CYPRUS AFFAIRS. END COMMENT
GRANT

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